



Introduced Version

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**SENATE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_**

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**DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION**

A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the importance of a strategic partnership between the United States of America and the Republic of Azerbaijan.

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**Hershman, Lanane, Arnold J**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1       A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the importance of a  
2       strategic partnership between the United States of America and the  
3       Republic of Azerbaijan.

4       *Whereas, The Republic of Azerbaijan restored its independence in*  
5       *October 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union, proclaiming itself*  
6       *the heir to the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic, which was established*  
7       *in 1918 and was the first secular democratic republic in the Turkic and*  
8       *Muslim world and among the first nation-states granting the right to*  
9       *vote to women;*

10       *Whereas, The United States of America was one of the first countries*  
11       *to recognize the independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan in 1991*  
12       *and to establish full-fledged diplomatic relations with it in 1992;*

13       *Whereas, Over the last 20 years, the Republic of Azerbaijan has*  
14       *consolidated its sovereignty and independence and has become one of*  
15       *the fastest developing countries in the region and beyond;*

16       *Whereas, The election of the Republic of Azerbaijan to a*  
17       *nonpermanent seat on the United Nations security council in October*  
18       *2011 is a testament to the growing role and increased capabilities of*  
19       *the Republic of Azerbaijan in maintaining peace and security in the*  
20       *wider Middle East;*

21       *Whereas, The United States of America, along with the United*  
22       *Nations, recognizes and supports the Republic of Azerbaijan's*  
23       *sovereignty and territorial integrity;*

24       *Whereas, The Republic of Azerbaijan has an area of 33,440 square*  
25       *miles, which also includes the Karabakh and Nakhchivan regions;*



1       *Whereas, The United States of America and the Republic of*  
 2       *Azerbaijan have developed a strong strategic partnership based on*  
 3       *shared values and interests and a shared vision;*

4       *Whereas, The Republic of Azerbaijan is a staunch ally and strategic*  
 5       *partner of the United States of America in the critically important*  
 6       *Caspian region;*

7       *Whereas, The Republic of Azerbaijan was one of the first countries*  
 8       *to render unconditional assistance to the United States after the terror*  
 9       *attacks of September 11, 2001, opening its airspace and airports for*  
 10       *use by coalition troops in Afghanistan and sending officers and*  
 11       *soldiers to serve shoulder-to-shoulder with United States troops;*

12       *Whereas, Today about 40% of all supplies for troops of the United*  
 13       *States of America and its allies in Afghanistan are delivered via the*  
 14       *Republic of Azerbaijan;*

15       *Whereas, The United States of America and the Republic of*  
 16       *Azerbaijan continue their successful cooperation in counterterrorism*  
 17       *efforts and the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, which*  
 18       *is of particular importance given that the Republic of Azerbaijan is an*  
 19       *ally nation located between Iran and Russia;*

20       *Whereas, The Republic of Azerbaijan possesses vast oil and gas*  
 21       *resources and contributes to the energy security of the United States*  
 22       *of America and the European nations, and it is a critical element of the*  
 23       *southern gas corridor, which will further enhance diversification of*  
 24       *energy supplies used by European allies of the Republic of Azerbaijan*  
 25       *and the United States of America;*

26       *Whereas, Azerbaijan has a long-standing tradition of peaceful*  
 27       *coexistence with various ethnic and religious communities and is one*  
 28       *of the few secular countries in the Middle East with a predominately*  
 29       *Muslim population that maintains close, friendly ties with Israel; and*

30       *Whereas, It is critical for the United States of America to further*  
 31       *strengthen the relations with its allies, such as the Republic of*  
 32       *Azerbaijan, to advance common interests currently and in the future:*  
 33       *Therefore,*

34                       *Be it resolved by the Senate*  
 35                       *of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

36       SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate recognizes the importance of  
 37       the strategic partnership and friendship between the United States of  
 38       America and the Republic of Azerbaijan and believes that the



1 partnership and friendship should be recognized and further enhanced  
2 through mutual efforts over the years to come.

3 SECTION 2. That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this  
4 resolution to the office of the governor and the members of the Indiana  
5 Congressional delegation.

